

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /087 W

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R 162045Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3292

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 3351

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, PE, US

SUBJECT: PERUVIAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO ISSUES STATEMENT ON
PERU'S EXPROPRIATION OF GULF OIL CORP

1. PERUVIAN EMBASSY SANTIAGO CARRIES OUT ACTIVE PROGRAM
OF PUBLIC RELATIONS NEWS RELEASES TO EXPLAIN AND JUSTIFY
PERUVIAN ACTIONS, USUALLY IN SOME WAY AFFECTING CHILE.
MAY 16 EL MERCURIO PUBLISHES A PERUVIAN EMBASSY COMMUNIQUE
ON PERU'S EXPROPRIATION OF GULF, ISSUED ON BASIS THAT EMBASSY
"JUDGES IT APPROPRIATE TO INFORM CHILEAN PUBLIC OPINION"
OF THE CONTRACT CANCELLATION AND EXPROPRIATION.

2. COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT SINCE THE PRESIDENT OF GULF
ADMITTED PAYMENT OF \$4 MILLION IN BRIBES TO FOREIGN OFFICIALS
TO OBTAIN PERMISSION TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS, AND SINCE "SUCH
PROCEDURES OFFEND NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MORALITY AND
ARE SUBJECT TO PENAL LEGISLATION," AND IN SOLIDARITY WITH
THE LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS INFLUENCED BY SUCH ACTIONS,
PERU HAS HALTED GULF OPERATIONS AND ORDERED EXPROPRIATION.
COMMUNIQUE FURTHER STATES PERUVIAN ECONOMIC AND FINANCE
MINISTRY WILL PROVIDE FUNDS NECESSARY TO PAY COMPENSATION
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AND GIVES ASSURANCE THAT GOP'S DECISION SHOULD NOT BE

CONSIDERED AS AFFECTING THE PRESENCE IN PERU OF LAW-ABIDING FOREIGN COMPANIES. DECISION IS, HOWEVER, THE CONSEQUENCE OF REVULSION PROPERLY FELT IN LATIN AMERICA AS RESULT OF GULF'S CONDUCT, AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE CONSTAND DEMAND OF THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT THAT TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES COMPLY STRICTLY WITH THE LAWS OF THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY OPERATE.

3. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER PERUVIAN EMBASSIES ELSEWHERE HAVE ISSUED SIMILAR STATEMENTS, AND HAVE SEEN NO LOCAL COMMENT ON THIS ONE.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANTIA03351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750174-0659
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750544/aaaabnx.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PERUVIAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO ISSUES STATEMENT ON PERU'S EXPROPRIATION OF GULF OIL CORP
TAGS: EINV, ENRG, PE, US, CI, GULF OIL CORP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006